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LISA EISNER

"She was an angel. She glowed," says Lisa Eisner of late potter Beatrice Wood, who was 100 years old when photographed for this story (p.98). "It was a real pilgrimage for me to visit her—to be in her Ojai world, see how she lived—just to observe her. She was so young and vital, even at 100. It's once in a lifetime you meet someone like this." Publisher of Greybull Press, Eisner is a frequent contributor to *Vanity Fair* and *The New York Times Magazine*, and, along with business partner Roman Alonso, curates the back page, *C California* (p.128), in each issue. **C SPOTS** • The almond and orange groves of Ojai • Santa Cruz. I love that it's five minutes from the redwoods and two minutes from pristine beaches • The Long Beach and Pasadena flea markets



AMANDA ROSS

Editor-at-Large Amanda Ross, who moved from New York to L.A. last year, produced this month's story on interior designer Katie McGloin (p.74). "Working with Katie and her family was a true pleasure. Their creative energy, sense of adventure and love for one another was incredibly

inspiring," says the former *Harper's Bazaar* editor. **C SPOTS** • West Hollywood's Sunset Tower for drinks or dinner • The Aero Theater in Santa Monica • My car! I love driving around town—windows down, music loud



GLORIA WONG

L.A. native Gloria Wong recently returned from 10 years in NYC working for *Harper's Bazaar*, *Nylon* and *Teen People*. For this month's "Resort Report" (p.35) Wong spoke with boutique owner Lisa Dresner after a long day at the Paris fashion shows. Wong says, "She sounded fresh enough to start all over again."

C SPOTS • Santa Monica's Will Rogers State Park • The gardens of San Marino's Huntington Library • Kokokokko, a convivial yakitori restaurant in L.A.'s Little Tokyo



NATHAN COOPER

"Talking with Maria Shriver was fantastic, as she's extremely well-informed and she couldn't be more passionate about California," says Executive Editor Nathan Cooper, who interviewed CA's First Lady about the state's new Hall of Fame (p.106) and also penned this month's cover story on Mischa Barton (p.68). A NYC transplant, Cooper produces *C Fashion*, *C The Menu*, *C Culture* and *Reports From the Social Front* each month. **C SPOTS** • Monterey Park's Chung King for exquisitely hot Sichuan food • Parker Palm Springs' red clay tennis courts • The herb garden at Malibu's Getty Villa

GEORGE KOTSIPOPOULOS

For Style Director George Kotsiopoulos, the best part of styling this month's fashion shoot (p.86) at Oakland's Billetproof show "was seeing all the fantastic vintage cars. Dewey [the photographer] is a car aficionado, so we were in excellent hands." Kotsiopoulos also styled *C Girl* (p.44) and "Call of the Wild" (p.40) for this issue. **C SPOTS** • Karaoke in Koreatown • Bike rides in Malibu, Venice, Manhattan Beach and Santa Barbara. I pretend to race everyone—and win • The Grove, though I'm ashamed to admit it



STATE OF EXCELLENCE

As she prepares to cut the ribbon on the first-ever California Hall of Fame, First Lady of CA **Maria Shriver** talks with C about celebrating the state's most accomplished citizens

As most high school Social Studies teachers could likely attest, whipping up public interest in matters of history is no small task these days. So when First Lady of California Maria Shriver decided to combat what she saw as a pervasive disinterest among Californians in their state's past, she pulled out the silver bullet against the MTV generation's a-historical outlook: the almighty Hall of Fame.

Something about those three words can turn what would otherwise amount to a sleepy stack of encyclopedia entries into a momentous and captivating public event. America's infatuation with historical celebrity plays out in halls dedicated to famous figures across a dizzying array of subjects, from baseball, football and Texas Rangers ("Dedicated to the history and popular culture of the legendary Texas Rangers") to rock 'n' roll, hockey and robots ("Honoring the fictional and real robots that have inspired and made breakthrough accomplishments in robotics").

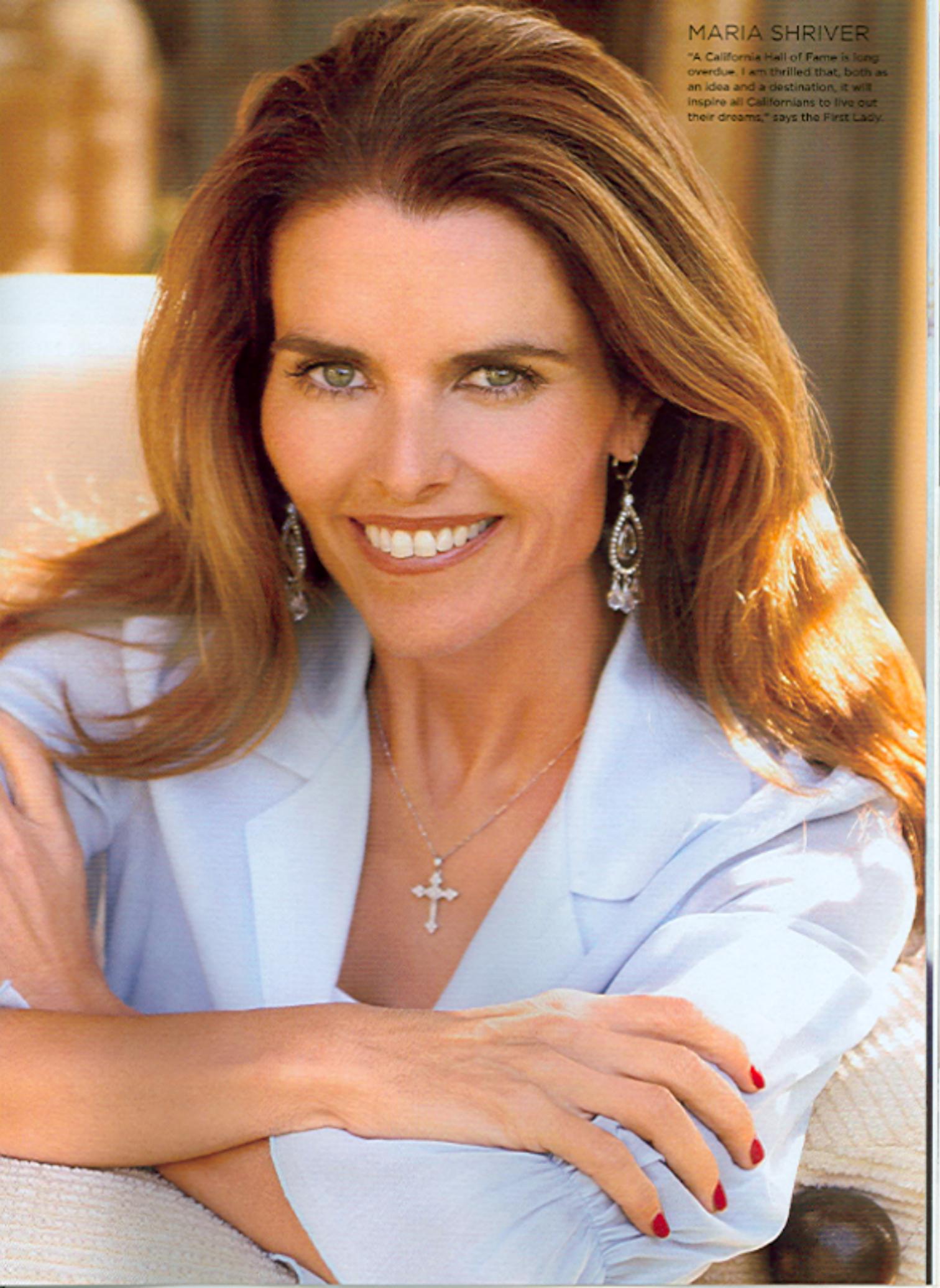
Upon arriving in the Statehouse after her husband, Arnold Schwarzenegger, was elected Governor in 2003,

Shriver quickly decided to raise Californians' historical awareness. "I was struck by how little people knew as I went around the state; first about any women who have contributed to the state, but also how little is known about the history of the state, period," she says. "Other than the missions and the Gold Rush, people didn't seem to know much else about the place they call home."

Shriver chalks up a lot of the ignorance she encountered to the fact that many Californians migrate here from somewhere else. And whether their point of origin is a foreign country or a state "back East," Shriver says most California newcomers retain a stronger attachment to the history of their birthplace than that of their adopted state. "And yet the ironic thing is that they move to California because they believe this is the state where dreamers make their dreams come true—where innovators break new ground," says the First Lady. The plan, then, would be to foster Californians' interest in the Golden State by showcasing its leading legends.

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BY NATHAN COOPER



MARIA SHRIVER

"A California Hall of Fame is long overdue. I am thrilled that, both as an idea and a destination, it will inspire all Californians to live out their dreams," says the First Lady.



▼ LUCILE AND DAVID PACKARD

Founders of Hewlett-Packard, the Packards steered their high-tech venture to global prominence and created a philanthropic foundation to match its multi-billion-dollar success.



▲ JOHN MUIR

An icon devoted to preserving the pristine beauty of California, Muir founded the Sierra Club, and with it the modern conservationist movement.



▼ RONALD REAGAN

After two terms as Governor of California, Reagan went on to spend eight years in the White House. "Ronnie's life embodied the California dream," says his widow, Nancy Reagan.



▲ CÉSAR CHÁVEZ

A farm worker, labor leader and social activist, Chavez fought tirelessly for the rights of migrant farm workers. His birthday, March 31, is an official holiday in California.



▲ WALT DISNEY

The creator of Mickey Mouse and Disneyland, Disney revolutionized the entertainment world in his 43-year career. Disney and his staff won 48 Academy Awards in his lifetime.



A black and white photograph of William Randolph Hearst. He is an older man with a friendly expression, smiling broadly while holding a vintage telephone receiver to his ear. He is dressed in formal evening wear, including a dark tuxedo jacket, a white dress shirt with visible studs, and a dark bow tie. His left hand is tucked into his jacket pocket. The background is a simple, light-colored wall with vertical lines, possibly from a curtain or paneling. The lighting is soft, highlighting his features.

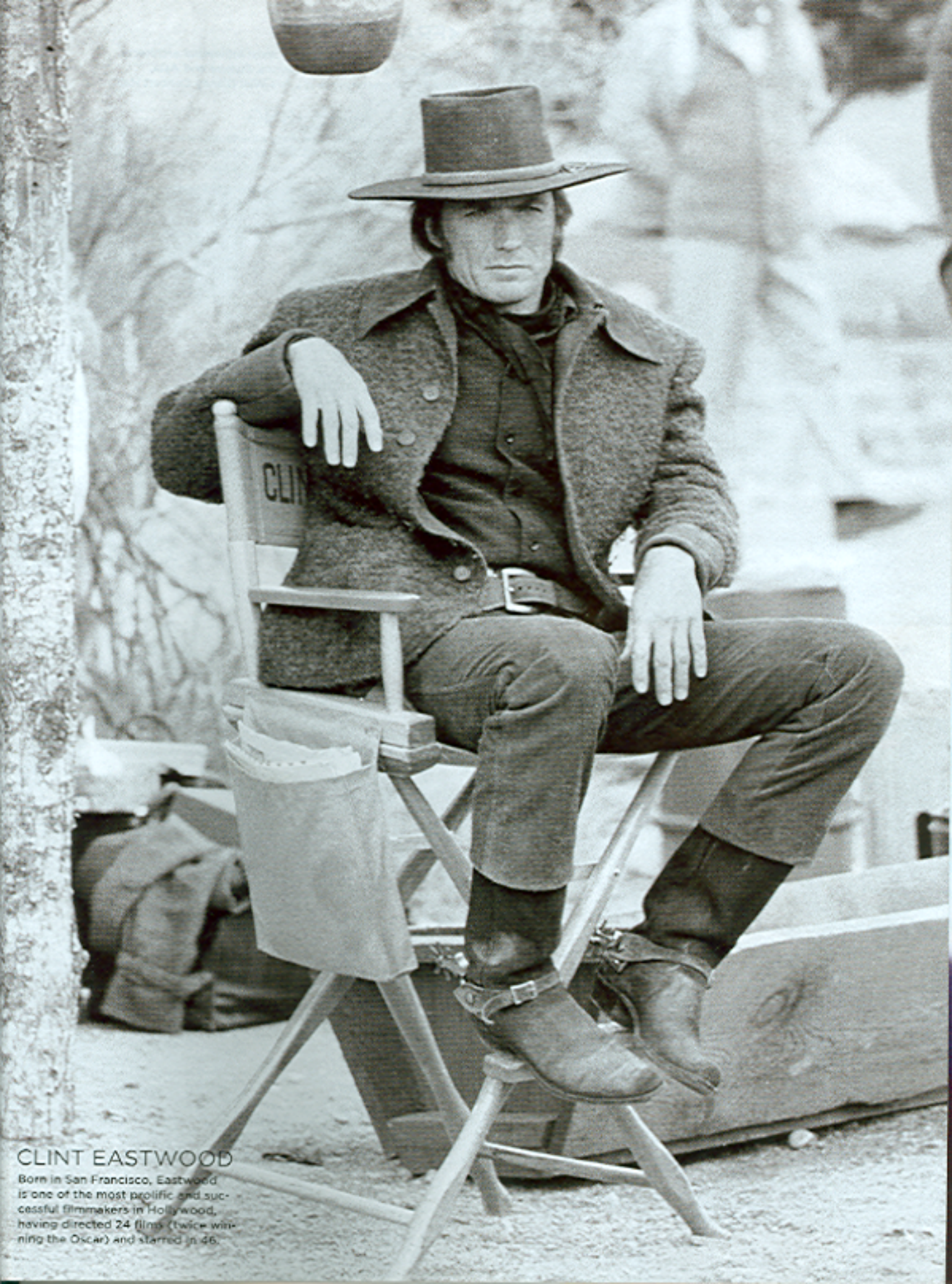
**WILLIAM
RANDOLPH
HEARST**

Born in San Francisco, Hearst became a key figure in the worlds of publishing, politics, entertainment and art. The Hearst family continues to build on his legacy today.

AMELIA EARHART

One of the world's most celebrated aviators, Earhart remains an iconic symbol of the power and perseverance of American women.





CLINT EASTWOOD

Born in San Francisco, Eastwood is one of the most prolific and successful filmmakers in Hollywood, having directed 24 films (twice winning the Oscar) and starred in 46.

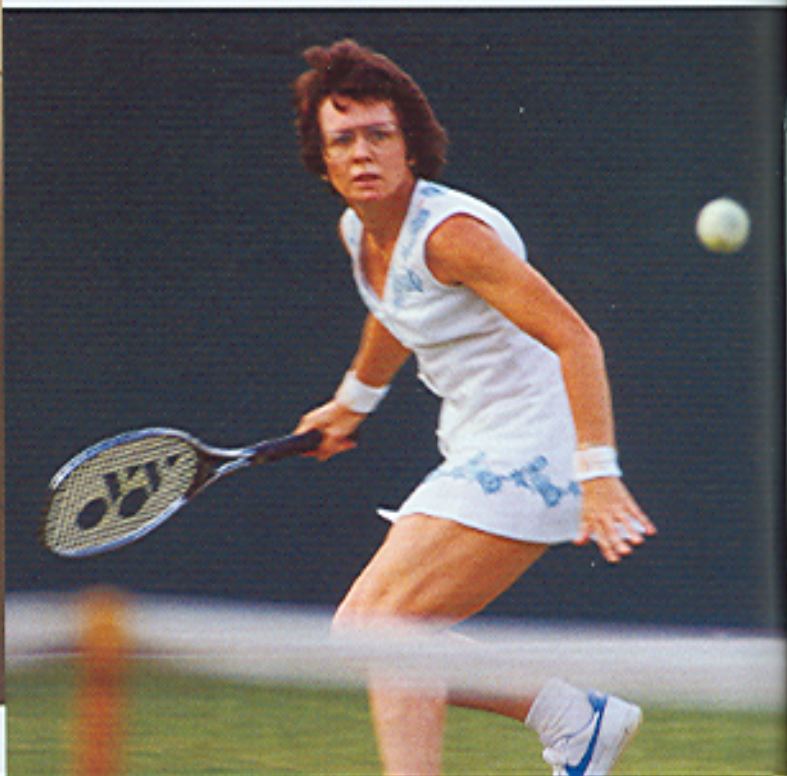


◀FRANK GEHRY

On the short list of the world's most influential architects with projects throughout America, Europe and Asia, Gehry's CA masterpiece is L.A.'s Walt Disney Concert Hall.

▼BILLIE JEAN KING

A Long Beach native, legendary athlete and winner of 37 grand slam tennis titles, King is considered to have made today's world of professional women's sports a possibility.



▼SALLY RIDE

Born in Los Angeles, Ride is the first American woman to fly in outer space and has dedicated herself to improving science education since her historic Space Shuttle flight in 1983.



▲DAVID HO

A leading AIDS researcher for more than 24 years, Ho's discovery of therapies using protease inhibitors has allowed many thousands of HIV patients to live long and healthy lives.

FRANK GEHRY: JEFFREY M. HARRIS/REUTERS; BILLIE JEAN KING: GARY W. KAPLAN/REUTERS; SALLY RIDE: NASA; DAVID HO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS/REUTERS

ALICE WALKER

Activist and social visionary, Walker is the author of six novels, including her Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Color Purple*, and numerous volumes of poetry and essays.



A LIFE OF ART

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 100

potters Otto and Gertrud Natzler.

Wood's figural work, however, what she playfully called her "sophisticated primitives," is what best captures her personal sense of whimsy and irreverence. "They are about relationships between men and women," Lloyd says, "loves won and lost"—the subject of which Wood never seemed to grow weary.

"I never made love to the men I married," she writes in her memoir, "and I did not marry the men I loved." Even at an advanced age, she indulged in innuendo and flirted with men half her age. "For her 105th birthday," Heather Thomas-Brittenham says,

"we brought her two things: chocolate and my bodyguard-turned-personal-assistant John, who was a former exotic dancer."

"She was delighted. She was an earthy, sensual person," adds Thomas-Brittenham, an actress made famous by her blonde bombshell-looks in '80s television series such as "T.J. Hooker" and "The Fall Guy." "Beatrice couldn't take her eyes off Heather," Patti Marcus recalls of their visits.

With Marcus, a self-taught ceramicist who now runs the art gallery at the Archer School for Girls in Brentwood, Wood shared secrets of how to achieve that inimitable glaze. "She'd throw moth balls, salt, wood soaked in linseed oil, into the kiln," Marcus says.

For the other Coco Chanel Girls, afternoons whiled away consuming chai tea and chocolate while the artist supplied them with a kind of spiritual fortitude. "She was a womb of safety and security," says yoga activist Tara Guber, wife of movie mogul Peter Guber. When it came time for the women to leave for Los Angeles, they would all pile back into one car and drive silently down the hill as the setting sun bathed the Topa Topa mountains in pink—Woods' favorite color—a phenomenon unique to this little high-desert hamlet.

"Her presence was something special," LJ Ohlmeyer reminisces. "We felt the way you'd feel leaving the Sistine Chapel." •

STATE OF EXCELLENCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 106

Thus began the development of the California Hall of Fame, a permanent exhibit housed at the California Museum for History, Women and the Arts in Sacramento. Each year, a group of inductees will be installed in the Hall of Fame through a formal ceremony in Sacramento, at which the celebrated legends, or their families in the case of posthumous awards, will receive a Spirit of California medal, designed for the Hall of Fame by Venice, CA-based artist Robert Graham.

Deciding whom to include in the Hall was naturally a delicate process, given the wide range of standards and criteria which could be used to narrow the field. How many should be included? Ought they be living, deceased or a mix of both? Ultimately Shriver, who assembled the list along with a committee of

scholars, including Californian State librarian Emeritus and USC professor of history Kevin Starr, settled on 13 exceptional Californians representing a broad range of accomplishments in varied fields. The common thread would be that each inductee made a lasting contribution to the state by transcending boundaries with creative vision. "What's good about it is there will be an ongoing debate about who belongs in there," says Shriver. "I like that, because I'm all about sparking conversation," she says.

The conversation will kick off this month upon the unveiling of the inaugural inductees: Walt Disney, Amelia Earhart, Clint Eastwood, Frank Gehry, David Ho, M.D., Billie Jean King, John Muir, Ronald Reagan, Sally Ride, Alice Walker and the Hearst and Packard families. "The inductees share a common characteristic: They dreamed, they built, they organized and they soared so that the world

would never be the same," says Shriver.

Far from a simple coincidence or a function of the state's disproportionately large population, Shriver thinks California is a uniquely powerful launching pad for groundbreaking achievements. "The state has always been open to people who march to their own drummers," she says. "People come here who feel confined in other places. They see that you don't have to have gone to a certain school or to have grown up in a specific family to succeed here." No stranger to the pressure of growing up in a well-known family, Shriver acknowledges that a sense of freedom from expectations was part of the draw for her to move West. "I really wanted the Hall of Fame to include people who really listened to their own inner voices," she adds. "These are not people who did well by following in the family footsteps. These are people who came and decided, 'I'm going to do it my way.'" •